1.   (Previously Presented) A multimedia data structure used for an image

search, comprising:

(a)   information describing at least one feature of a certain image;

(b)   recent user feedback information based on user relevance

feedback; and

(c)   whole feedback information based on the user relevance

feedback obtained since formation of the data structure.

2.   (Previously Presented) The multimedia data structure as claimed in

claim 1, wherein the recent user feedback information is determined for a

predetermined time period or by a predetermined frequency.

3.   (Previously Presented) The multimedia data structure as claimed in

claim 1, wherein the recent user feedback information includes a weight value learned

by the user relevance feedback or similar image information, and the whole feedback

information is represented by a weight value learned by the user relevance feedback

given since formation of the data structure.

4.   (Original) The multimedia data structure as claimed in claim 1, further

comprising recent user feedback reliability information representing how reliable the

recent user feedback information is, and whole feedback reliability information

representing how reliable the whole feedback information is.

5.   (Previously Presented) The multimedia data structure as claimed in

claim 4, wherein the recent user feedback reliability information is expressed by

$$1 - \frac{\left[\sum_{i=0}^{i=m}(N - n_i)\right]}{N}$$

where, N is a number of user feedback responses, m is a number of images in a

similar image list, and n_i is a number of user feedback responses given to the i-th

image.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Previously Presented) A method of managing image information for

an image search, comprising:

        forming a data structure which includes information describing features

of a certain image, recent user feedback information, and whole feedback

information; and

        determining weights for the features of the certain image based on the

recent user feedback information and the whole feedback information,

        wherein the method further comprises:

representing the recent user feedback information by a similar image

list, and

reflecting a recent user feedback pattern based by the similar image list

using a queue algorithm, and

wherein the queue algorithm comprises:

(a)   checking whether a similar image exists in a current queue when

the similar image is fed back;

(b)   if it is checked that the similar image does not exist in the

current queue, inputting the similar image to an uppermost space of a queue entrance,

setting number of feedback responses of the similar image to "1", and shifting images

existing in the queue to low positions by one space;

(c)   if it is checked that the similar image exists in the current queue,

increasing the number of feedback responses of the similar image, and shifting other

images in the queue to upper positions by "N"; and

(d)   if any image is shifted to a lower position over a size of the

queue at the respective steps, deleting the image shifted to the lower position from

the queue.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein "N"

is fixed or variably determined in accordance with the similar image.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein "N"

is varied in inverse proportion to a frequency of appearance of the similar image.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein if

the similar image does not exist in the queue when the similar image is fed back, the

similar image is inputted to the queue only in case that the similar image is fed back

more than a specified threshold number.

11.   (Previously Presented) The multimedia data structure as claimed in

claim 1, wherien the recent user feedback information is represented as a similar

image list, and the similar image list has an image list structure which includes a

similar image identification, a score reflecting the current feedback, and a waiting

duration representing a time period between a final feedback time point and a present

time point.

12.   (Previously Presented) A similar image list managing method for the

multimedia data structure recited in claim 11, comprising:

        managing a similar image list in a manner that only images whose

scores are over a predetermined threshold number are maintained in the list, or only

images whose scores are on N upper positions of the list if a size of the list is N.

13.   (Previously Presented) A feedback reflecting score updating method

for the multimedia data structure recited in claim 11, comprising updating image

scores in a manner that:

(a)   with respect to images fed back from similar images, a following

calculation is performed: Score (new) = Score (current) x fW (Waiting Duration) + 1;

and

(b)   with respect to other images not fed back, a following

calculation is performed: Score (new) = Score (current) x fW (Waiting Duration) ;

and wherein fW (Waiting Duration) is a function having a characteristic that it returns

smaller values as the waiting duration becomes longer.

14.   (Previously Presented) A method of determining weights of image

features used for an image search based on user relevance feedback, comprising:

(a)   providing a multimedia data structure including information

describing features of a certain image, recent user feedback information for the

image, and whole feedback information for the image based on user relevance

feedback obtained since formation of the data structure, and reliability information

corresponding to the recent user feedback information and whole feedback

information;

(b)   updating the recent user feedback information and whole

feedback information and their reliabilities by learning them in response to the user

relevance feedback;

(c)   determining weights of image features in proportion to the

reliabilities of the recent feedback information, the whole feedback information, or

both the recent feedback information and the whole feedback information.

15.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the

recent user feedback information is represented by a weight value learned by the user

relevance feedback or a similar image information, and the whole feedback

information is represented by a weight value learned by feedback given since

formation of the data structure.

16.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the reliability of

the recent user feedback information is determined in proportion to a consistency of

a recently used pattern or feedback.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the

reliability of the whole feedback information is determined in proportion to a number

of feedback responses concerned in learning.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the reliability of the whole feedback information is responsive to recorded user usage records wherein the recorded user usage records provide feedback to the reliability of the whole feedback information without user interaction.

19.   (Previously Presented) A multimedia data structure reflecting change of a user relevance feedback for determining weights of image features used for an image search, comprising:

(a)   information describing at least one feature of a certain image;

(b)   recent user feedback information based on user relevance feedback;

(c)   whole feedback information based on the user relevance feedback obtained since formation of the data structure; and

(d)   reliability information indicating reliability of at least one of the user feedback information and whole feedback information.

20.   (Previously Presented) The multimedia data structure of claim 19, wherein the reliability information indicates reliability of both of the user feedback information and the whole feedback information.

21.   (New) The multimedia data structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the recent user feedback information and whole feedback information provide an indication of relevance of said information describing the at least one feature of the certain image.

22.   (New) The multimedia data structure of claim 1, wherein the at least one feature includes at least one of a color histogram, a texture histogram, and a dominant color of the image.

23.   (New) The multimedia data structure of claim 1, wherein said information provides a statistical description of the image.